

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04919 01 OF 03 031558Z POSS DUPE
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 L-03
FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 ICA-11 AGRE-00 AID-05
CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 IO-13 LAB-04 NSAE-00
OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 ISO-00
JUSE-00 /140 W

-----086373 031937Z /45

R 031539Z APR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7880
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 03 GENEVA 04919

USEEC USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNCTAD
SUBJECT: UNCTAD: MEDIUM TERM PLAN REVIEW

1. SUMMARY: THE WORKING PARTY ON UNCTAD'S MEDIUM TERM
PLAN CONCLUDED APRIL 3 AFTER A DELAY CAUSED BY THE G-77
MAKING EXTENSIVE REVISIONS OF THE REPORT RELATING TO
ITS INTERVENTIONS. ONLY SURPRISE OF THE MEETING WERE
REPEATED STRONG PITCHES MADE BY SOVIET DELEGATE ON
BEHALF OF GROUP D THAT EAST/WEST TRADE SHOULD BE ONE OF
PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS OF UNCTAD. ALL REGIONAL GROUPS
RAISED QUESTIONS AND PROFITED FROM THIS REVIEW OF
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04919 01 OF 03 031558Z POSS DUPE

UNCTAD'S PRESENT AND PROJECTED ACTIVITIES, AND THE G-77
AND GROUP B EACH URGED THAT THE SECRETARIAT DEVOTE MORE
ATTENTION TO PROBLEMS OF LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
(LLDCS). END SUMMARY.

2. WORKING PARTY ON UNCTAD'S MEDIUM TERM PLAN (1980-83)
CONCLUDED SUCCESSFULLY APRIL 3 AT 11:30 AM WITH ADOPTION

OF REPORT, TO BE REVIEWED BY RESUMED SESSION OF 17TH TDB, APRIL 4. MEETING WAS A USEFUL EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE FOR THE 26 PARTICIPATING MEMBER STATES -- PROVIDING AN OPPORTUNITY TO QUESTION THE SECRETARIAT'S PRIORITIES ON ALL ACTIVITIES IN ALL DIVISIONS. WP WAS ABLY LED BY THE CHAIRMAN, AMBASSADOR JARAMILLO OF COLOMBIA, AND KWASNIEWSKI OF THE POLISH DELEGATION WAS ELECTED VICE-CHAIRMAN-CUM-RAPPORTEUR. ALL PARTICIPANTS IN THE WORKING PARTY (WP) AGREED THAT IT WAS A VERY USEFUL MEETING, WHICH MARKED THE FIRST TIME THAT MEMBER STATES HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON THE SECRETARIAT'S MEDIUM TERM PLAN (TD/B/691) BEFORE IT IS SUBMITTED TO THE CENTRAL UN BODIES FOR APPROVAL.

3. THE LEVEL OF G-77 REPRESENTATION IN THE WP WAS HIGH -- REFLECTING THE G-77'S GROWING INTEREST IN ENSURING THAT THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT IS FULLY RESPONSIVE TO DECISIONS TAKEN BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES. IN ITS CONCLUDING STATEMENT, THE G-77 SAID IT ATTACHES THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE TO THE NEED FOR UNCTAD TO COORDINATE WITH OTHER UN BODIES, BUT THAT UNCTAD NEVERTHELESS HAS A VERY USEFUL CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TO CERTAIN ACTIVITIES, EVEN THOUGH THE FINAL DECISION ON THESE ACTIVITIES MIGHT REST IN OTHER FORA. THE G-77 ALSO STRESSED THE NEED FOR CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE UNCTAD SYG AND THE REGIONAL GROUPS DURING THE PROCESS OF FORMULATING FUTURE PLANS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04919 01 OF 03 031558Z POSS DUPE

4. PREM KUMAR, INDIAN PERM REP IN GENEVA, SERVED AS G-77 COORDINATOR. ALSO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN THE WORKING PARTY WERE AMBASSADOR BRILLANTES OF THE PHILIPPINES, DEPUTY PERM REP OF ETHIOPIA GEBREKIDAN, AND AMBASSADOR MARTINEZ OF ARGENTINA. THE ETHIOPIAN SEVERELY CRITICIZED THE SECRETARIAT FOR DEVOTING INADEQUATE RESOURCES AND ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED, WHICH HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A PRIORITY AREA AT UNCTAD IV, ECHOING AN EARLIER CRITICISM WHICH HAD BEEN MADE BY GROUP B AS WELL. BRILLANTES MADE STRONG PLEAS TO ARSENIS (DIRECTOR OF DIVISION ON MONEY, FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT) AND STORDEL (ACTING DIRECTOR OF MANUFACTURES DIVISION) TO BEGIN DETERMINING WHICH ISSUES SHOULD RECEIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION AT UNCTAD V, IN AN EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THIS 1979 MANILA CONFERENCE WILL HAVE CONSTRUCTIVE RESULTS. (COMMENT: BRILLANTES' COMMENTS SUPPORT USDEL'S IMPRESSION THAT THE G-77 HAS NOT YET ESTABLISHED ITS OWN PRIORITIES FOR UNCTAD V AND IS SEEKING GUIDANCE FROM THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT. END COMMENT)

5. ONE SURPRISING DEVELOPMENT AT THE WP MEETING WAS

THAT THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE
(ALEXANDER IVANOF OF THE GENEVA MISSION) MADE REPEATED
STRONG PITCHES ON BEHALF OF GROUP D THAT EAST/WEST TRADE
SHOULD BE ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS OF UNCTAD.
ALTHOUGH THE SOVIETS HAVE MADE THIS POINT IN THE PAST,
THEY PLACED A GREAT DEAL OF STRESS ON IT AT THIS MEETING
-- CLAIMING THAT EAST/WEST TRADE IS PART OF UNCTAD'S
UNIVERSAL MANDATE AND THAT GROUP D CONSIDERS EFFORTS TO
KEEP THIS SUBJECT OUT OF UNCTAD AS A "MANEUVER" TO WEAKEN
UNCTAD AND ERODE THE PRINCIPLE OF ITS UNIVERSALITY. THIS
ARGUMENT WAS STRONGLY REBUTTED BY THE GROUP B SPOKESMAN
(ALLEN--US), WHO REAFFIRMED OUR LONGSTANDING POSITION
THAT ECE IS THE PROPER FORUM FOR EAST/WEST TRADE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04919 02 OF 03 031704Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 L-03
FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 ICA-11 AGRE-00 AID-05
CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 IO-13 LAB-04 NSAE-00
OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 ISO-00
JUSE-00 /140 W

-----086863 031937Z /45

R 031539Z APR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7881
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 03 GENEVA 04919

(COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT GROUP D MAY BE TRYING TO INSERT
EAST/WEST TRADE ISSUES INTO UNCTAD IN AN EFFORT TO DIVERT
G-77 ATTENTION FROM EAST/SOUTH TRADE ISSUES, SINCE THE
SOVIET BLOC IN RECENT MONTHS HAS BEEN SEVERELY CRITICIZED
BY THE G-77 IN CERTAIN UNCTAD MEETINGS FOR DOING LITTLE
OR NOTHING TO IMPROVE ITS ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH THE LDCS.
END COMMENT) GROUP B'S POSITION WAS SUPPORTED BY THE

CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE, WU NAI-WEN, WHO SAID THAT UNCTAD SHOULD NOT WASTE ITS RESOURCES BY BECOMING INVOLVED IN OTHER AREAS UNDER THE PRETEXT OF UNIVERSALITY, AND BY AMB. MARTINEZ OF ARGENTINA, WHO SAID THAT UNCTAD SHOULD INSTEAD PAY GREATER ATTENTION TO EAST/SOUTH TRADE. IN OTHER INTERVENTIONS, GROUP D SAID THAT UNCTAD SHOULD DO MORE WORK ON THE DISARMAMENT/DEVELOPMENT LINK AND THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04919 02 OF 03 031704Z

UNCTAD SHOULD MORE CLOSELY COORDINATE WITH OTHER UN BODIES TO AVOID DUPLICATION.

6. IN ITS FINAL STATEMENT, GROUP B MADE THE FOLLOWING GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE PLAN WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING FUTURE REVIEW EXERCISES: (A) THE PLAN CONSISTENTLY "OVERSTATES" UNCTAD'S PRESENTLY DEFINED ROLE AND FUNCTION WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM; (B) IT REFLECTS COMPETITION OF THE DIFFERENT SUB-UNITS FOR TIME AND ATTENTION OF MEMBER STATES, RATHER THAN CONCENTRATION ON IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES WITHIN UNCTAD'S MANDATE; (C) THE PLAN UNDERSCORES UNCTAD'S CURRENT INTER-RELATED PROBLEMS INVOLVING AN EXCESSIVE NUMBER OF MEETINGS, NEGLECT OF LONG-TERM PLANNING, LACK OF ANY ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIORITIES AMONG PROGRAMS, AND LATE ISSUANCE OF DOCUMENTATION; (D) THE PLAN DOES NOT REFLECT THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT OF CONSULTANTS OR THE MAGNITUDE OF UNCTAD'S CURRENT AND PROJECTED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES. GROUP B ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THERE APPEARS TO BE AN EROSION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UN CONSENSUS THAT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS BE PRIMARILY FINANCED THROUGH VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND THAT THE UNDP PLAY THE CENTRAL FINANCING AND COORDINATING ROLE.

7. FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS WHICH EMERGED FROM EXAMINATION OF THE MEDIUM TERM PLANS OF SIX OF UNCTAD'S MAJOR DIVISIONS. (FULL REPORT OF WORKING PARTY WILL BE HANDCARRIED TO WASHINGTON BY USREP BRUCE.) MONEY, FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT. DIRECTOR ARSENIS SAID THAT IN LIGHT OF DECISION TAKEN AT MINISTERIAL TDB, AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP OF EXPERTS IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO MEET IN OCTOBER 1978 TO IDENTIFY FEATURES FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS RELATING TO DEBT PROBLEMS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04919 02 OF 03 031704Z

INTERESTED LDCS. HE SAID HE WOULD HOLD BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS IN PREPARING FOR THE EXPERT

MEETING, AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO REPORT AT UNCTAD V THAT THE EXPERTS HAVE IDENTIFIED CERTAIN INTERNATIONALLY AGREED FEATURES. IN RESPONSE TO A GROUP B OBSERVATION THAT THE MEDIUM TERM PLAN OVERSTATED UNCTAD'S ROLE IN THIS AREA, ARSENIS ADMITTED THAT SOME RE-DRAFTING WAS REQUIRED BUT POINTED OUT THAT WHILE NEGOTIATIONS ON MONETARY ISSUES ARE HELD IN THE IFIS, UNCTAD'S ROLE IS TO CONSIDER THESE ISSUES WITH A VIEW TO CONTRIBUTING TO DELIBERATIONS ELSEWHERE. THE G-77 NOTED THAT THE SECRETARIAT'S PROGRAM ON INTERDEPENDENCE OF TRADE, MONEY AND FINANCE WAS OF GROWING IMPORTANCE AND SUGGESTED THAT THE SECRETARIAT EXAMINE THE IMPACT OF FLUCTUATING EXCHANGE RATES ON EXPORT EARNINGS AND TERMS OF TRADE OF LDCS.

COMMODITIES. DIRECTOR MC INTYRE POINTED OUT THAT FUTURE WORK DEPENDED ON OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS UNDER THE IPC. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM GROUP B, HE SAID THAT 12 AD HOC POSTS IN HIS DIVISION WOULD DISAPPEAR BY THE END OF 1978 UNLESS A DECISION TO THE CONTRARY WAS TAKEN BY APPROPRIATE UN ORGANS. MC INTYRE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE FUTURE OF THE IPC WOULD BE CLEARER AFTER DECISIONS ARE TAKEN AT THE JULY SESSION OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE AND THE AUGUST/SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT PARTS OF THE COMMODITIES SECTION OF THE PLAN WOULD BE RE-WRITTEN IN LIGHT OF GROUP B'S OBSERVATIONS THAT THE PRESENT DRAFT CONTAINS PREJUDICIAL LANGUAGE AND OVERSTATEMENTS OF UNCTAD'S ROLE.

TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. DIRECTOR PATEL OPENED THE DISCUSSION BY ANNOUNCING THAT IT HAS BEEN DECIDED IN NEW YORK THAT UNCTAD AND THE ILO SHOULD PREPARE A STUDY ON REVERSE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY ("BRAIN DRAIN"), WHICH HAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04919 03 OF 03 031705Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02
ICA-11 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10
IO-13 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07 TRSE-00
CEA-01 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
JUSE-00 /140 W

-----086901 031938Z /45

R 031539Z APR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7882
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 03 OF 03 GENEVA 04919

BEEN AUTHORIZED IN UNGA RESOLUTION 32/192. (SEE SEPTTEL)
GROUP B ASKED PATEL FOR CLARIFICATIONS ON A NUMBER OF
POINTS IN THE PLAN -- POINTING OUT SEVERAL INSTANCES
WHERE UNCTAD APPEARED TO BE OVERSTEPPING ITS ROLE AND
ENCROACHING ON THE WORK OF OTHER UN ORGANS (ESPECIALLY
WIPO AND UNIDO). PATEL CLAIMED THAT HIS DIVISION WAS
COMPLEMENTING AND COOPERATING WITH OTHER UN
ORGANS IN THIS FIELD, BUT DID NOT PROVIDE CONVINCING
EVIDENCE IN THIS REGARD. IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM
GROUP B, HE SAID THAT A DETAILED REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES
OF HIS ADVISORY SERVICE WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE NEXT
SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY.

LEAST DEVELOPED, LANDLOCKED AND ISLAND LDCS. DIRECTOR
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04919 03 OF 03 031705Z

STONE SAID THAT UNCTAD'S SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR THE LEAST
DEVELOPED, LANDLOCKED AND ISLAND LDCS IS A FOCAL POINT
FOR COORDINATING ACTIVITIES FOR DISADVANTAGED COUNTRIES
WITHIN UNCTAD AND THE ENTIRE UN SYSTEM. HE SAID THAT
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES OF HIS PROGRAM HAD
INCREASED ENORMOUSLY AND THAT THE SECRETARIAT IS CUR-
RENTLY ENGAGED IN SEEKING ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF VOLUNTARY
FUNDING FOR THESE ACTIVITIES. GROUP B QUESTIONED
WHETHER THE LLDCS WERE RECEIVING SUFFICIENT ATTENTION IN
UNCTAD, AND POINTED OUT THAT THE PLAN, WHICH IS ORGANIZED
BY DIVISIONS, MIGHT UNDERSTATE WHAT UNCTAD IS ACTUALLY
DOING IN THIS CROSS-SECTORAL AREA. BEFORE THE DOCUMENT
IS SUBMITTED TO THE CPC, GROUP B SUGGESTED THAT THIS
SECTION BE RE-WRITTEN TO REFLECT THE WELL-AGREED
PRIORITIES OF THE LLDCS. ETHIOPIAN DEP PERMREP CLAIMED
THAT THE OTHER DIVISIONS OF UNCTAD WERE DOING NOTHING
FOR THE LLDCS AND SAID THAT THE SEVEN PROFESSIONAL
STAFF ASSIGNED TO THE LLDC PROGRAM WERE NOT SUFFICIENT
TO CARRY OUT THE WORK WHICH MUST BE DONE.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (ECDC).

DIRECTOR LA CARTE SAID HIS DIVISION IS CLOSELY CO-ORDINATING WITH THE UN REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS AND LDC REGIONAL BODIES AND IS INVOLVED IN 13 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES WITH THESE REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. GROUP B POINTED OUT THAT THE WORK PROGRAM OF THIS DIVISION IS BASED ON DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE UNCTAD INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON ECDC, RATHER THAN A G-77 CONFERENCE IN MEXICO CITY (AS ERRONEOUSLY STATED IN THE DOCUMENT). GROUP B ALSO CHALLENGED THE SECRETARIAT'S ASSERTION THAT UNCTAD HAS BECOME THE UN FOCAL POINT FOR ECDC ACTIVITIES -- POINTING OUT THAT THIS QUESTION HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED BY THE ACC, CPC, AND ECOSOC.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04919 03 OF 03 031705Z

MANUFACTURES. IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT THE WORK OF THIS DIVISION SHOULD BE REVIEWED AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE MTN. THE G-77 SUGGESTED THAT THE SECRETARIAT EVALUATE THE RESULTS OF THE MTN ON MANUFACTURED EXPORTS OF LDCS. VANDEN HEUVEL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA04919
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780144-0025
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780497/aaaadesf.tel
Line Count: 356
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cbc109b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3087745
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNCTAD: MEDIUM TERM PLAN REVIEW
TAGS: AORG, UNCTAD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cbc109b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014